

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 04864 071326Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 /074 W
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P 062229Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7868

UNCLAS PANAMA 04864

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PN
SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN REACTION TO FOURTH OF JULY
CELEBRATIONS

REF: USICA 04808

1. REFTEL REPORTS EFFUSIVE MEDIA RESPONSE TO FOURTH OF JULY PREPARATIONS. WHILE THERE HAS BEEN NO FOLLOW-UP IN THE NEWSPAPERS, THE EVENT WAS FILMED BY A LOCAL TELEVISION STATION.
2. THE UP-BEAT REPORTING OF U.S.-PANAMANIAN RELATIONS IN THE "NEW ERA" WAS REINFORCED BY THE STAR-STUDDED ARRAY OF GOP OFFICIALS WHO ATTENDED THE INDEPENDENCE DAY RECEPTION AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. PRESIDENT AND MRS. LAKAS WERE PRESENT, AND THE PRESIDENT RESPONDED TO THE AMBASSADOR'S TOAST POSITIVELY AND WITH GREAT HOPES FOR FUTURE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. IN ADDITION, SIX MINISTERS ATTENDED, INCLUDING A FEW WHO HAD NOT ATTENDED IN RECENT MEMORY.
3. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATIONAL GUARD WERE (AS USUAL) ABSENT; BUT, ALMOST UNHEARD OF, SEVERAL DID SEND REGRETS, AND GENERAL TORRIJOS SENT AN IMPOSING FLORAL ARRANGEMENT.
4. COMMENT: THIS UNACCUSTOMED OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL

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WARMTH ON THE FOURTH OBVIOUSLY REFLECTS THE EXCELLENT STATE OF U.S.-PANAMANIAN RELATIONS IN THE IMMEDIATE POST-TREATY PERIOD. JORDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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